GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:374
ANSWERED ON:16.07.2002
BUDGETARY ALLOCATION FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME
PRAKASH V. PATIL

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether many central sponsored rural development schemes could not be taken up due to non-availability of funds;

(b) whether ministry had large unspent provision to the extent of the 451 crore during 1999-2000 and substantial amount in 2000-2001;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to avoid recurrence of the same in such key sectors ?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR)

(a) : No, Sir.

(b) : The Ministry had an unspent provision of Rs. 401.23 crores during 1999-2000 and Rs. 496.70 crores during 2000-2001 (excluding the provision for North Eastern States).

(c) : The unspent balances are due to cuts imposed on account of excess carry over balance with the State Governments/Implementing Agencies and due to the fact that the North Eastern States could not claim the entire 10% of the allocation earmarked for them.

(d) : The Ministry have been impressing upon the States/UTs to make full use of the funds allocated to them. The Minister of Rural Development and the Ministers of State for Rural Development also visit the States/UTs and review the performance of Programmes at the highest level. The States/UTs have also been advised to send the proposals for release of Second instalment before the end of February, so that they get enough time to utilise the funds before the closure of the Financial Year.